

Individuals desiring to become certified as law enforcement officers in the State of Wisconsin must complete the 520 hour law enforcement preparatory training program offered by the Wisconsin Technical College districts or at a service academy (State Patrol, Department of Natural Resources, Milwaukee PD, Milwaukee Sheriff, and Madison PD). The Law Enforcement Standards Board, a regulatory board attached to the Department of Justice, oversees the curriculum and certifies agencies and officers. The program consists of 488 hours of training and 32 hours of scenario-based evaluation. Topics that are included in the 488 hours are:

- 32 hours of training covering ethics, diversity, and agency policy;
- 110 hours devoted to tactical skills training, including defensive tactics and firearms;
- 50 hours of legal training, including constitutional law, criminal law and juvenile law;
- 96 hours of relational skills training, consisting of topics such as communication, community policing, and crisis management;
- 146 hours of patrol procedures, including emergency vehicle operations, traffic crash investigation and traffic law; and
- 54 hours devoted to investigations, including domestics, sexual assault and child maltreatment investigations.

The 32 hours of scenario-based evaluation at the conclusion of the training program consists of role-playing simulations where recruits are tested on their ability to handle situations ranging from traffic crash investigations, deadly force encounters, civil disputes, crowd control situations, crisis interventions, serving arrest warrants, and evidence preservation.

After successful completion of the 520 hour training program, individuals who have met all other requirements for entry to the profession are certifiable and eligible to be hired by any law enforcement agency in the state.

---